

**Amendments to Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A system for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file, ~~the system~~ comprising:

a communication link; and

a dynamic configuration server (DCS) connected to the communication link, the DCS ~~adapted to~~ configured to:

~~generate one or more~~ a boot file template, wherein ~~each of the one or more~~ the boot file template is associated with a boot file template identifier and wherein the boot file template comprises one or more attributes an attribute associated with the provisionable network device;

receive a boot file request from the provisionable network device via the communication link, wherein the boot file request comprises ~~a~~ the boot file template identifier and an attribute value associated with the attribute;

select ~~a~~ the boot file template based on the boot file template identifier;

extract the attribute value from the boot file request;

create a boot file by assigning ~~assign each of the one or more attributes of the selected boot file template an~~ the attribute value in the boot file request to the attribute of the template based on the boot file identifier to create the boot file; and

send the boot file via the communication link to the provisionable network device, ~~wherein to provision~~ the provisionable network device is provisioned with the boot file.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the communication link is an IP network.

3. (Currently Amended) The system of ~~claim 2~~claim 1, wherein the DCS is a TFTP server.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the boot file template identifier is a boot file filename.
- 6-8. (Canceled)
9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisionable network device is a DOCSIS-compliant device.
10. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisionable network device is a PacketCable compliant device.
11. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisionable network device is a CableHome compliant device.
12. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisionable network device is selected from the group consisting of a router, a modem, a computer, a switch, a printer and a server.
13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the provisionable network device is connected to a network and wherein the DCS is further ~~adapted~~ configured to:
  - generate a first message integrity check (MIC) by computing a hash of the attributes and the attribute values of the boot file and a shared key; and
  - append the first MIC to the boot file;~~;~~andwherein the system further comprises a network registration server ~~adapted~~ configured to:
  - receive the boot file from the provisionable network device;
  - generate a second MIC by computing a hash of the attributes and the attribute values as received by the registration server and the shared key;
  - make a determination if the first MIC and the second MIC are the same;

~~in the event that~~ if the first MIC and the second MIC are the same,  
then register the provisionable network device with the network  
thereby allowing the provisionable network device to operate on  
the network.

14. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the DCS is further  
~~adapted~~ configured to:

determine if the shared key has changed; and

~~in the event~~ if the ~~DCS~~ shared key has changed, then communicate the  
shared key to the network registration server.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for provisioning a provisionable network  
device with a boot file, ~~the method~~ comprising:

generating ~~one or more boot file templates~~ a boot file template, wherein  
~~each~~ the boot file template is associated with a boot file template identifier  
and wherein the boot file template comprises one or more attributes an  
attribute associated with the provisionable network device;

receiving a boot file request from the provisionable network device via a  
communication link, wherein the boot file request comprises ~~a~~ the boot  
file template identifier and an attribute value associated with the attribute;

selecting ~~a~~ the boot file template based on the boot file template identifier;  
extracting the attribute value from the boot file request;

creating a boot file by assigning each of the one or more attributes of the  
selected boot file template an the attribute value in the boot file request to  
the attribute of the template based on the boot file identifier so as to create  
the boot file; and

sending the boot file to the provisionable network device via the  
communication link; and

~~so as to provision~~ provisioning the provisionable network device with the  
boot file.

16. (Previously Presented) The method for provisioning a provisionable  
network device with a boot file of claim 15, wherein the communication link is an  
IP network.

17. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of ~~claim 16~~claim 15, wherein the DCS is a TFTP server.

18. Canceled.

19. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of ~~claim 18~~claim 15, wherein the boot file template identifier is a boot file filename.

20-22. (Canceled)

23. (Previously Presented) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 15, wherein the provisionable network device is a DOCSIS-compliant device.

24. (Previously Presented) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 15, wherein the provisionable network device is a PacketCable compliant device.

25. (Previously Presented) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 15, wherein the provisionable network device is a CableHome compliant device.

26. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 15, wherein the provisionable device is selected from the group consisting of a router, a modem, a computer, a switch, a printer, and a server.

27. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 19, wherein the DCS comprises ~~an a~~ table of indexed hash table values and wherein ~~generating-selecting~~ the boot file template from one of the one or more boot file templates based on the boot file request comprises:

- computing a hash value of the boot file filename;
- making a ~~first~~ determination whether the computed hash value matches an indexed hash value on the indexed hash table ~~associated with one of the one or more boot file templates~~; and

~~in the event~~if the computed hash value matches an indexed hash value on the indexed hash table, then selecting the boot file template associated with the indexed hash value.

28. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 19, wherein the DCS comprises ~~an a~~ table of indexed hash table values and wherein selecting the boot template ~~generating the boot file from one of the one or more boot file templates based on the boot file request~~ comprises:

computing a hash value of the boot file filename;  
making a first determination whether the computed hash value matches one of the an indexed hash values on the indexed hash table ~~associated with one of the one or more boot file templates~~; and  
~~in the event~~if the computed hash value does not match one of the an indexed hash values on the indexed hash table, then making a second determination whether the boot file filename identifies ~~one of the one or more the~~ boot file ~~template~~template; and  
~~in the event that~~if the boot file filename identifies ~~one of the one or more the~~ boot file ~~template~~template, then selecting the boot file template identified by the boot file filename, associating the computed hash value with the selected boot file template, and adding the computed hash value to the indexed hash table.

29. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 15, wherein the provisionable network device is connected to a network and wherein the method further comprises:  
generating a first message integrity check (MIC) by computing a hash of the attributes and the attribute values of the boot file and a shared key;  
appending the first MIC to the boot file;  
sending the boot file from the provisionable network device to a network registration server;

at the network registration server, generating a second MIC by computing a hash of the attributes and the attribute values as received by the registration server and the shared key;  
making a determination if the first MIC and the second MIC are the same;  
and  
~~in the event that~~ if the first MIC and the second MIC are the same, then registering the provisionable network device with the network thereby allowing the provisionable network device to operate on the network.

30. (Currently Amended) The method for provisioning a provisionable network device with a boot file of claim 29, wherein the method further comprises:

at the DCS, determining if the shared key has changed; and  
~~in the event~~ if the shared key has changed, then communicating the shared key to the registration server via the communications link.

31. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the DCS comprises a table of indexed hash values and wherein the DCS is further configured to:

compute a hash value of the boot file filename;  
make a determination whether the computed hash value matches an indexed hash value on the indexed hash table; and  
if the computed hash value matches an indexed hash value on the indexed hash table, then select the boot file template associated with the indexed hash value.

32. (New) The system of claim 5, wherein the DCS comprises a table of indexed hash values and wherein the DCS is further configured to:

compute a hash value of the boot file filename;  
make a first determination whether the computed hash value matches one of the indexed hash values on the indexed hash table;  
if the computed hash value does not match one of the indexed hash values on the indexed hash table, then make a second determination whether the boot file filename identifies the boot file template; and

if the boot file filename identifies the boot file template, then select the boot file template identified by the boot file filename, associate the computed hash value with the selected boot file template, and add the computed hash value to the indexed hash table.